

RESOLUTION 2025-11

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE, FLORIDA, URGING THE FLORIDA STATE LEGISLATURE TO ENACT LEGISLATION TO PROVIDE A PUBLIC RECORDS EXEMPTION FOR MUNICIPAL CLERKS AND EMPLOYEES WHO PERFORM MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS WORK OR HAVE ANY PART IN CODE ENFORCEMENT FUNCTIONS OF A CITY; PROVIDING FOR ADOPTION OF REPRESENTATIONS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, many municipal staff who perform duties that include, or result in, investigations into complaints regarding election fraud, legal enforcement of hearings that could lead to a criminal prosecution or code enforcement actions are exposed to threats and other acts of violence; and

WHEREAS, municipal clerks often administer elections and some election workers have been targeted for threats and violence due to the nature of materials they are responsible for; and

WHEREAS, municipal clerks are often involved in legal enforcement proceedings in actions related to violations of codes and ordinances and, occasionally, these proceedings have led to retaliation and threats by defendants; and

WHEREAS, currently public records exemptions in Florida include those for local personnel who either investigate, enforce or otherwise provide a service that can result in contentious interactions when action is taken and municipal clerks and their staffs fall within the need for a window for greater protection; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Association of City Clerks is very concerned for the safety and well-being of the municipal clerks and their staffs who serve the public on a daily basis and are, oftentimes, the first contact of citizens with cities; and

WHEREAS, the City of Pahokee has complied with all requirements and procedures of Florida law in processing and adopting this Resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE, FLORIDA:

Section 1. Adoption of Representations. The foregoing “Whereas” clauses are hereby true and correct and incorporated by reference.

Section 2. Florida State Legislature. The City Commission of the City of Pahokee, Florida, hereby urges and encourages the Florida State Legislature to enact

legislation to provide a public records exemption for municipal clerks and employees who perform municipal elections work or have any part in code enforcement functions of a municipality.

Section 2. Authorization of City Clerk. The City Clerk is hereby directed and authorized to send a certified copy of this Resolution to Governor Ron DeSantis, each State Representative and State Senator serving in the Palm Beach County Legislative Delegation, the Palm Beach County League of Cities, and the Florida League of Cities (FLC).

Section 4. Effective Date. This Resolution shall be effective immediately upon its passage and adoption.

PASSED and ADOPTED this 11th day February, 2025.

Keith W. Babb, Jr., Mayor

ATTEST:

Nylene Clarke, CMC, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND
LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:

Burnadette Norris-Weeks, P.A.
City Attorney

Moved by: _____

Seconded by: _____

VOTE:

Commissioner Boldin	_____ (Yes)	_____ (No)
Commissioner Cowan-Williams	_____ (Yes)	_____ (No)
Commissioner McPherson	_____ (Yes)	_____ (No)
Vice-Mayor Murvin	_____ (Yes)	_____ (No)
Mayor Babb	_____ (Yes)	_____ (No)